

# **DOWN & DIRTY DV: A Message from Anthony...**



Dear Down and Dirty DV Nation,

Much apologies for the continued delay in the release of new video podcast episodes. Several episodes have been shot and are awaiting my attention for assembly and editing. (I simply won't put out any crap content just to keep something out there, so you've just gotta hang tight.) Some very good and exciting things have been happening behind the scenes in the Down and Dirty DV basement. Big announcements coming soon.

In the mean time, I want to share with you some more pages from my book, "**Down and Dirty DV: Vol. 1 – Documentaries**" (277+ pages, 200+ illustrations, \$24.95) which of course is available at [www.DownAndDirtyDV.com](http://www.DownAndDirtyDV.com) The book, just like this podcast, is chock-full-of 100% practical, straight-forward information for guerrilla filmmakers like you.

I'm almost at the finish line on this big secret project and starting March/April I will bring you more video episodes including interviews with documentary legend, **Albert Maysles** (*Grey Gardens, Gimme Shelter*), producer/editor and long-time Spike Lee collaborator, **Sam Pollard** (*When the Levees Broke, 4 Little Girls, Mo' Better Blues*), the lovely and talented actress, **Zoey Saldana** (*Premium, Pirates of the Caribbean, Drumline*) along with specials on **Feature Film Fundraising** and **Interview Lighting**, plus our first **Down and Dirty DV Guerrilla Workshop** in NYC and more hot content to help you create projects on any budget, any camera, and any time.

So stay tuned, we're gonna turn up the heat this Spring. In the mean time, I hope you find this chart of DV cameras that I recommend helpful. The **Down and Dirty DV Camera Guide** will be updated several times a year and exclusively distributed to all the members of The Down and Dirty DV nation who subscribe to our FREE mailing list at [www.DownAndDirtyDV.com](http://www.DownAndDirtyDV.com).

Thanks for subscribing. Tell your friends and stay tuned for more, Baby!...We're just getting started!

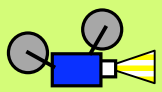
Peace Love and Video,  
-Anthony Q. Artis  
*Digital Video Pimp*

There are a mind-boggling number of choices and even more specs to consider when picking a camera today. I have kept the focus on the more affordable prosumer cameras that are out there since they are the staple of most guerrilla efforts. The next few pages represent my best attempt at compiling all of this prosumer camera information in one convenient place.

Some of the real specs were more elusive than others depending on who was presenting the math. I tried to research and sort out confusing or fuzzy manufacturer's information and name prevailing prices as found at major camera dealers. Inevitably, most prices will lower and a new crop of cameras will come out in the not too distant future.

In the meantime, the next few pages are my personal picks and commentary on some of the best prosumer cameras on the market today from entry-level starter cams to those loaded with professional features. Check the Down and Dirty DV website for the most up to date Camera Guide.

## Camera Guide Key:



**Projection  
Quality**



Projects: **Theatrical Features, Broadcast TV**

These cameras have higher quality images and recording modes that are suitable for projection on a big screen or blow-up to film.



**Broadcast  
Quality**



Projects: **DVD Features, Broadcast TV, Events**

These prosumer cameras have images and recording modes that are suitable for television broadcast.



**DVD / TV  
Quality**



Projects: **Student Exercises, Events, Web**


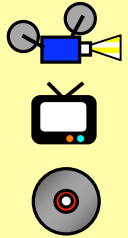

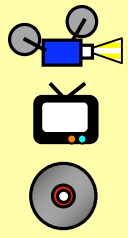




These cameras are appropriate for any project that will primarily be shown on DVD, a standard tv screen, or on the Internet.




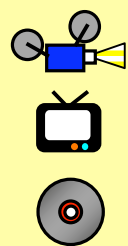

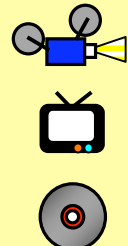




## : Sony 3-Chip Mini-DV Camera Guide

www.DownandDirtyDV.com




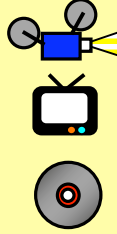

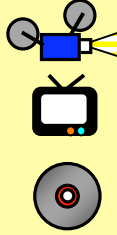
c. 2007 Anthony Q. Artis

MODEL	IMAGE SPECS	CCD'S	BEST USE	NOTES
 <b>HVR-Z1U - \$4700.00</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HDV/ DV Cam/ DV</li> <li>• 3 lux min. light</li> <li>• 1080i mode</li> <li>• 4.5 - 54mm zoom</li> <li>• 3.5" lcd screen</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1/3" CCD's</li> <li>• 16:9 native</li> <li>• 4:3 capable</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NTSC / PAL switchable</li> <li>• weight = 4.4lbs.</li> </ul>
 <b>FX1 - \$3000.00</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HDV/ DV</li> <li>• 1080i mode</li> <li>• 4.5 - 45mm zoom</li> <li>• 3.5" lcd screen</li> <li>• 3 lux min. light</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1/3" CCD's</li> <li>• 16:9 native</li> <li>• 4:3 capable</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• no XLR inputs!!!</li> <li>• weight = 4.4 lbs.</li> <li>• 72mm filter size</li> </ul>
 <b>PD-170 - \$2800.00</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DV Cam/ DV</li> <li>• 6 - 72mm zoom</li> <li>• 2.5" lcd screen</li> <li>• 1lux min. light</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1/3" CCD's</li> <li>• 4:3 native</li> <li>• electronic 16:9 mode</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• auto-gain control for sound</li> <li>• weight = 3.3lbs.</li> </ul>
 <b>PDX-10 - \$1700.00</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DV Cam/ DV</li> <li>• 3.6 - 43mm zoom</li> <li>• 3.5" lcd screen</li> <li>• 7 lux min. light</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1/4.7" CCD's</li> <li>• 4:3 native</li> <li>• electronic 16:9 mode</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• big features at a small price</li> <li>• great entry-level / student camera</li> <li>• S-Video connector</li> <li>• touch screen display</li> <li>• weight = 2lbs. 1oz.</li> <li>***discontinued, available used</li> </ul>

*\*All cameras above have Firewire ports and 2 XLR ports, unless otherwise indicated. Prices may vary by market.*

MODEL	IMAGE SPECS	CCD'S	BEST USE	NOTES
 <b>XL-H1 - \$8500.00</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 24P HDV</li> <li>• 5.4mm - 108mm</li> <li>• HD video lens</li> <li>• 2.4" lcd viewfinder</li> <li>• 7 lux min. light</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1/3" CCD's</li> <li>• 16:9 native</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• removable lens</li> <li>• time code in-out / genlock</li> <li>• HD/SDI output</li> <li>• mic/line switch controls <i>both</i> inputs</li> <li>• no flip-out lcd screen</li> <li>• weight = 8.3lbs.</li> <li>• 72mm filter size</li> </ul>
 <b>XL-2 - \$3400.00</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 24P DV</li> <li>• 5.4mm - 108mm</li> <li>• 2.4" lcd viewfinder</li> <li>• 5.5 lux min. light</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1/3" CCD's</li> <li>• 16:9 native</li> <li>• 4:3 capable</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• removable lens</li> <li>• no flip-out lcd screen</li> <li>• weight = 6lbs. 3oz.</li> <li>• 72mm filter size</li> </ul>
 <b>XL-1s - \$3100.00</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DV</li> <li>• 5.5-88mm zoom</li> <li>• .7" lcd viewfinder</li> <li>• 2 lux min. light</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1/3" CCD's</li> <li>• 4:3 native</li> <li>• Electronic 16:9</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• removable lens</li> <li>• no XLR inputs!!!</li> <li>• no flip-out lcd screen</li> <li>• awkward balance</li> <li>• 72mm filter size</li> <li>• 6lbs. 5oz.</li> <li>***<i>discontinued, available used</i></li> </ul>
 <b>GL2 - \$1950.00</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DV</li> <li>• 4.2mm-84mm</li> <li>• 2.5" lcd screen</li> <li>• 6 lux min. light</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1/4" CCD's</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• good entry-level / student camera</li> <li>• omni-directional onboard mic!!!</li> <li>• 12-bit audio (fm stereo quality) only</li> <li>• 58mm filter size</li> </ul>

**\*All cameras above have Firewire ports and 2 XLR ports, unless otherwise indicated. Prices may vary by market.**

MODEL	IMAGE SPECS	CCD'S	BEST USE	NOTES
 <p><b>DVX-100 B - \$3400.00</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 24P DV</li> <li>• 4.5mm-45mm</li> <li>• 3.5" lcd screen</li> <li>• 3 lux minimum</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1/3" CCD's</li> <li>• 4:3 native</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• most bang for your buck under \$4000</li> <li>• 72mm filter size</li> <li>• weight = 3.7lbs.</li> </ul>
 <p><b>HVX-200 - \$5300.00</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 24P</li> <li>• DVCPro HD/ DVC Pro / DV</li> <li>• 4.5-58mm</li> <li>• 3.5" lcd screen</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1/3" CCD's</li> <li>• 16:9 native</li> <li>• 4:3 capable</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 24P HDV mode requires pricey P2 cards or Firestore-type hard drive</li> <li>• super fast USB 2.0 connection</li> <li>• NTSC / PAL switchable</li> <li>• 1080/24P and various frame modes</li> <li>• 72mm filter size</li> <li>• weight = 4.4lbs.</li> </ul>
 <p><b>GY-HD100 - \$5700.00</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 24P</li> <li>• HDV 720P**</li> <li>• 5.5-88mm.</li> <li>• 3.5" lcd screen</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 16:9 native</li> <li>• 4:3 capable</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• removable lens</li> <li>• many frame recording modes</li> <li>• shoulder mount design</li> <li>• weight = 6.9lbs.</li> </ul> <p>**a.k.a. "Pro HD"</p>

*\*All cameras above have Firewire ports and 2 XLR ports, unless otherwise indicated. Prices may vary by market.*